

Helmuth Goepfert and Dr. Geoffrey L. Robb, who chair the Department of Head and Neck Surgery and the Department of Plastic Surgery, respectively. For the coaches and their specialty colleagues, the common goal centers on removing patients, cancers and restoring optimal form and function.

Smith's surgery 3 days before last Christmas involved cutting out his diseased jaw and reconstructing the mandible with bone and tissue taken from his left leg. Although he couldn't talk or eat his favorite pizza for a while, Smith says now, "I'm getting stronger every day . . . and I'm eager to play again."

At the other end of the age spectrum is former U.S. House Speaker Jim Wright, who at age 76 also illustrates the importance of high quality in one's life.

I've always been a talker, so I was a little concerned before the surgery that I wouldn't be able to talk well enough for people to understand me," confides Wright, a Fort Worth Democrat whose 34-year span in Congress was complete in 1989.

During more than 13 hours of surgery at M.D. Anderson last March 12, Wright's cancerous right mandible, an adjacent segment of the tongue and eight teeth were removed, then a six inch piece of bone from his left leg was used to form a new jaw. Skin from his left thigh overlying the bone was also transplanted to replace part of his inside of his mouth and tongue and the external skin of his cheek.

"Believe me, I feel truly blessed," Wright says in a strong and clear voice.

His gratitude has been enhanced by recalling how his father lost a jaw to cancer more than 30 years ago. "There was no thought then of replacing it with bone from somewhere else in the body . . . (He) spent his last days with a facial disfigurement that was the mark then of many cancer victims," Wright remembers.

This was Wright's second bout with an oral cancer. In 1991, he had surgery at M.D. followed by radiation treatments. Since his latest extensive surgery, he has resumed most of his favorite activities, including writing a regular newspaper column and, of course, "talking with anyone who'll listen."

Intensive collaboration among head and neck surgeons and plastic surgeons in recent years has "greatly improved our ability to resect all sizes of tumors and to restore vital function and appearance as well as to extend survival," observes Dr. Goepfert, who holds the M.G. and Lillie A. Johnson Chair for Cancer Treatment and Research.

New methods developed by plastic surgeons permit reconstruction of the oral cavity safely and with increasingly good outcomes. The key to success involves transferring tissues—together with vital blood vessels and nerves—from elsewhere in a patient's body to use for rebuilding parts of the head and neck affected by cancer.

Dr. Robb explains, "The head and neck is the most difficult area to reconstruct. But through specialized Micro vascular techniques, we can move tissues, muscle, fat and bone, along with their blood supply, to use in reshaping jaws, the tongue, and parts of the nose, ears, and throat."

Age is no obstacle for performing big reconstructive procedures so long as older patients

have good blood vessels to transfer with the tissues. Regardless of age, Dr. Robb says, "Our primary aim is to restore form, contour and function to the body parts affected by cancer surgery so that patients can enjoy the highest quality of life."

For Wright, being able to talk, chew, swallow and look virtually normal is a "miracle" stemming from remarkable medical progress and his religious faith. "The good news is that cancer is conquerable" and "useful life is prolongable."

Realizing the best quality of cancer survival for Smith, however, will occur when he can return to the football field. During a recent follow-up visit to M.D. Anderson, his doctors encouraged him to continue that dream.

COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE COMPETITION AND PRIVATIZA- TION ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend the distinguished Chairman of the Commerce Committee, Chairman BILEY, and Chairman TAUZIN, who have worked diligently to bring satellite privatization legislation before the House in these last days of this Session. This bill is an important step toward legislation that will advance increased competition in the global satellite telecommunications market.

When the House passed this bill last year, it was with the firm belief that time and technology had passed by the 1962 law that created COMSAT. In spite of the overwhelming House support, the bill was stalled over concerns raised by colleagues in the other body. Since that time, Lockheed Martin has arrived on the scene to buy COMSAT and make it a normal, private company without legal immunities or exclusive access to the Intelsat system. This is exactly what the proponents of the Biley-Tauzin bill want and is yet another example of the marketplace being ahead on Congress.

To date, Lockheed has followed regular order in its acquisition of COMSAT. It has received the approval of both the Federal Communications Commission and the Department of Justice to acquire 49% of COMSAT. Neither federal agency felt that competition or anti-trust laws were threatened by Lockheed Martin's purchase.

Now it is Congress' turn to weigh on this issue and I believe that this bill goes to great lengths to achieve honest and fair competition in the satellite competition in the satellite communications market. I also believe that we can complete legislative action on this bill before Congress leaves this year, which I understand the Chairman has said he intends to do. But as we move toward that legislative objective, it is important that we realize that certain issues must be addressed before we can declare a victory for the private competitive marketplace.

First of all, there is the issue known as "Level IV direct access". In effect, it would re-

sult in the forced divestiture of billions of dollars of Comsat shareholder investment in Intelsat infrastructure—investment undertaken often at the behest of the U.S. Government. Level 4 direct access simply guts the economic rationale for a private company to invest in Comsat. Indeed, that may be the rationale behind this provision: to dissuade Lockheed from acquiring Comsat. If that is the case, it would be a cynical attempt to manipulate the free market in the name of "competition." This provision must be changed in conference. Similarly, Congress should simply repeal the ownership cap on Comsat upon enactment of final consensus legislation, rather than making it contingent upon occurrence of unrelated events as it does now.

Other outstanding differences between the House and Senate have been raised by other Members and must similarly be resolved in conference. I urge Chairman BILEY to work with Mr. DINGELL toward a consensus, notably on the privatization criteria, which serve as FCC licensing criteria, and must be made more flexible.

Again, I consider myself as a supporter of this bill. The Congress has been very shrewd in letting the telecommunications marketplace work its will towards fair competition. We should use this opportunity to continue that successful record. I urge the conferees to consider these issues when crafting a final package to present to the Congress and ultimately the President.

A TRIBUTE TO FREDERICK C. MALKUS, JR.

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great statesman and leader in the State of Maryland. With the death of former state Senator Frederick C. Malkus, Jr., on November 9, Maryland, as well as the entire Country, lost a great patriot and a dutiful public servant.

Frederick C. Malkus, Jr. died at the age of 86, having spent all of his adult life in the service of his fellow citizens. Senator Malkus, a conservative Democrat, served in the legislature for 46 years—12 in the House of Delegates and 34 in the Senate—before retiring in 1994. Upon his retirement, he was the longest serving State Legislator in the United States.

Born July 1, 1913, in Baltimore, Senator Malkus moved to the 380 acre Egypt Road farm, nine miles outside of Cambridge, on Maryland's Eastern Shore where he was raised there by his aunt and uncle. He spent the past 83 years on the working farm that produces wheat, corn, and soybeans. He graduated from Western Maryland College in 1934 and received his law degree four years later from the University of Maryland Law School. During World War II, Senator Malkus served in the U.S. Army and rose to the rank of major. He returned to Maryland and in 1947 won a seat in the House of Delegates.

He was, Mr. Speaker, an unforgettable individual who was a wonderful servant to Maryland and America. To know Fred Malkus was